

AHOME Given HUD Grant

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Staff Reports

Bridgeton News

MILLVILLE -- Affordable Homes of Millville Ecumenical was awarded a \$23,615.41 grant by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development earlier this week.

AHOME's grant was one of 13 housing counseling grants awarded to non-profit and local agencies across New Jersey. AHOME provides comprehensive housing counseling services to area residents.

The housing counseling grants will assist families in becoming first-time homeowners and remaining homeowners after their purchase. Renters, homeless individuals and families are also expected to benefit from the counseling offered by the grants.

"This administration strongly believes in the value of housing counseling services," HUD Secretary Alphonso Jackson said in a statement. "These organizations help families make informed choices before they take the important step of homeownership."

"They also provide a service that is vital in today's mortgage market -- they counsel families facing foreclosure and advise them about their options."

HUD awards annual grants under the housing counseling program through a competitive process. Organizations that apply for grants must be HUD approved and are subject to biennial performance reviews to maintain their HUD-approved status.

HUD is the nation's housing agency committed to increasing homeownership, particularly among minorities. It also looks to create affordable housing opportunities for low-income Americans and support the homeless, elderly, people with disabilities and people living with AIDS.

HUD also promotes economic and community development and enforces the nation's fair housing laws.

Additionally, AHOME was also awarded \$86,500 from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs to manage the development of affordable single-family houses in downtown Millville.